Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1 (Canceled)

1	2. (Currently Amended) The method for automatically determining
2	awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment
3	recited in claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the step of automatically adjusting a
4	distance is performed by a multi-agent system that automatically and
5	selectively provides perceived information to others based on perceived
6	events or status associated with others.

1	3. (Original) The method for automatically determining awareness settings
2	among people in a distributed working environment recited in claim 2,
3	wherein the elastic spring energy model governs reaction of an information
4	system in real time when events or status changes.

1	4. (Original) The method for automatically determining awareness settings
2	among people in a distributed working environment recited in claim 2,
3	wherein each agent acts on its user's behalf to adjust an awareness level
4	among different users.

1	5. (Currently Amended) The method for automatically determining
2	awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment
3	recited in claim ~~1~~ 11, further comprising the step of dividing
4	communications between different users into different channels and
5	specifying a clearness level for each channel.

1	6. (Currently amended) The method for automatically determining
2	awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment
3	recited in claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the elastic spring energy model is a

4   dynamic model so that the step of automatically adjusting a distance takes

5   into consideration events which happen at each user's site.

1   7. (Currently amended) A [The] method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   [recited in claim 1] comprising the steps of:

4   receiving real-time data produced by an event; and

5   automatically adjusting a distance according to how clear a receiver

6   can receive a corresponding signal from another party desired by

7   individual users and a need of a collaborative project to have some shared

8   information about individual user activities using an elastic spring energy

9   model, wherein the elastic spring energy model takes into consideration a

10   user's frustration level if information about the user is revealed to another

11   on the occurrence of a particular event.

1   8. (Currently amended) The method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   recited in claim ⫯ 11, wherein the elastic spring energy model determines

4   potential energy vectors which encode a user's preference on distances.

1   9. (Currently amended) A [The] method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   [recite in claim 1] comprising the steps of:

4   receiving real-time data produced by an event; and

5   automatically adjusting a distance according to how clear a receiver

6   can receive a corresponding signal from another party desired by

7   individual users and a need of a collaborative project to have some shared

8   information about individual user activities using an elastic spring energy

9   model, wherein the elastic spring energy model determines potential

10   energy vectors which encode awareness requirements for a collaborative

11   task.

1   10. (Currently amended) A [The] method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   [recited in claim 1] comprising the steps of:

4   receiving real-time data produced by an event; and

5   automatically adjusting a distance according to how clear a receiver

6   can receive a corresponding signal from another party desired by

7   individual users and a need of a collaborative project to have some shared

8   information about individual user activities using an elastic spring energy

9   model, wherein the elastic spring energy model determines potential

10   energy vectors which encode a user's preference on distances and

11   awareness requirements for a collaborative task.

1   11. (Currently amended) A [The] method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   [recited in claim 1] comprising the steps of:

4   receiving real-time data produced by an event; and

5   automatically adjusting a distance according to how clear a receiver

6   can receive a corresponding signal from another party desired by

7   individual users and a need of a collaborative project to have some shared

8   information about individual user activities using an elastic spring energy

9   model, wherein a matrix and vector look up model is used to determine the

10   distances among distributed users, the values of the matrix and the vector

11   encoding the preferences of the a user and the preference requirements of

12   the other another user.

1   12. (Currently Amended) The method for automatically determining

2   awareness settings among people in a distributed working environment

3   recited in claim 11, wherein the matrix and vector additionally encode the

4   preferences of the a task and the preferences of the an organization.